

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 20 are pending with claims 1, 16, 18, and 20 being independent. Claims 1 - 3, 7 - 11, 13 - 17, 19, and 20 have been amended to correct minor typographical errors and to highlight the most beneficial aspects of the presently claimed invention. No new matter has been added. The specification has been amended to correct minor typographical errors. No new matter has been added.

Favorable consideration is respectfully solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted,

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S. Paye

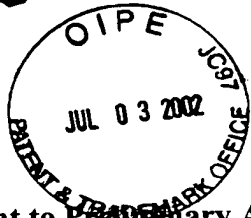
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**Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated June 28, 2002
Marked-up Copy of Amendments to the Specification and
Claims 1 - 3, 7 - 11, 13 - 17, 19, and 20**

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Amended paragraph beginning at Page 3, Line 12:

Wax is commonly removed from lube base stocks by Solvent Dewaxing. Solvent Dewaxing to make [Lube Base] lube base stocks has been used for over 70 years. An advantage of using Solvent Dewaxing is that the product pour and cloud points are reduced to approximately the same value. Limitations of Solvent Dewaxing include [the] high operating costs, use of volatile and flammable solvents, environmental problems due to solvent emissions in the air and groundwater, and production of slack wax for which there is a limited market.

1. (Amended) A process for preparing lube base stocks, the process comprising:
 - a) obtaining a first hydrocarbon fraction with a 95% point above 1150° F as measured by ASTM D2887 and a second hydrocarbon fraction with a 95% point below 1150° F as measured by ASTM D2887;
 - b) subjecting the first hydrocarbon fraction to a Solvent Dewaxing [conditions] process to obtain a lube base stock with a VI of greater than or equal to 115; and
 - c) subjecting the second hydrocarbon fraction to a Catalytic Dewaxing [conditions] process to obtain a lube base [stocks] stock having a viscosity less than the viscosity of the lube base stock of step b).
2. (Amended) The process of Claim 1 further comprising [hydrotreating and dewaxing] the step of subjecting at least one of the [factions selected from the group consisting of:] hydrocarbon fractions to hydrotreating followed by dewaxing, dewaxing followed by hydrotreating, [and] or combinations thereof.
3. (Amended) The process of Claim 1 further comprising [Catalytic Dewaxing and Solvent Dewaxing] the step of subjecting the first hydrocarbon fraction [selected from the group consisting of:] to a Solvent Dewaxing process followed by a Catalytic

Dewaxing[, and] process or a Catalytic Dewaxing process followed by a Solvent Dewaxing process.

7. (Amended) The process of Claim 6, wherein the Hydroisomerization [dewaxing] Dewaxing process is a complete Hydroisomerization Dewaxing process.
8. (Amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein at least a portion of one of the [first and second] hydrocarbon fractions is derived from the group consisting of Fischer-Tropsch synthesis products, slack [wax] waxes from conventional petroleum lube production, distillates from crude oil, deasphalted residual stocks from crude oil, and combinations thereof.
9. (Amended) The process of Claim 8, wherein at least a portion of one of the [first and second] hydrocarbon fractions is derived from [a] Fischer-Tropsch synthesis products.
10. (Amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the lube base stocks [have] has a pour point/cloud point spread of less than 30°C.
11. (Amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein the lube base stocks each have a pour point/cloud point spread of less than 10°C.
13. (Amended) The lube base stocks produced from the process according to Claim 1 each having a pour point between - 15 and -40°C, a VI above 115, a cloud point of less than -10°C, and a sulfur content of less than 300 ppm.
14. (Amended) The [product] lube base stocks according to Claim 13, wherein at [leas] least one of the lube base stocks [are combined with] further comprises one or more lube oil additives selected from the group consisting of lubricity improvers, emulsifiers, wetting agents, densifiers, fluid-loss additives, viscosity modifiers, corrosion inhibitors, oxidation inhibitors, friction modifiers, demulsifiers, anti-wear agents, dispersants, anti-foaming agents, pour point depressants, detergents, and rust inhibitors.
15. (Amended) The process of Claim 1, wherein at least one of the lube base stocks [are] is combined with one or more lube oil additives selected from the group consisting of lubricity improvers, emulsifiers, wetting agents, densifiers, fluid-loss additives, viscosity modifiers, corrosion inhibitors, oxidation inhibitors, friction modifiers,

demulsifiers, anti-wear agents, dispersants, anti-foaming agents, pour point depressants, detergents, and rust inhibitors.

16. (Amended) [A lube] Lube base stock [composition] compositions prepared by:

- a) obtaining a first hydrocarbon fraction with a 95% point above 1150°F and a second hydrocarbon fraction with a 95% point below 1150°F,
- b) subjecting the first hydrocarbon fraction to a Solvent Catalytic Dewaxing [conditions] process to obtain a first lube base stock, and
- c) subjecting the second hydrocarbon fraction to a Catalytic Dewaxing [conditions] process to obtain a second lube base stock,

whereby the [compositions] lube base stocks of [step] steps b) and c) each have a pour point between -15 and -40°C, a VI above 115, a cloud point of less than -10°C, and a sulfur content of less than 300 ppm.

17. (Amended) The lube base stock compositions of Claim 16, further comprising one or more lube oil additives selected from the group consisting of lubricity improvers, emulsifiers, wetting agents, densifiers, fluid-loss additives, viscosity modifiers, corrosion inhibitors, oxidation inhibitors, friction modifiers, demulsifiers, anti-wear agents, dispersants, anti-foaming agents, pour point depressants, detergents, and rust inhibitors.

19. (Amended) The lube base stock composition of Claim [23] 18, further comprising one or more lube oil additives selected from the group consisting of lubricity improvers, emulsifiers, wetting agents, densifiers, fluid-loss additives, viscosity modifiers, corrosion inhibitors, oxidation inhibitors, friction modifiers, demulsifiers, anti-wear agents, dispersants, anti-foaming agents, pour point depressants, detergents, and rust inhibitors.

20. (Amended) A process for preparing lube base stocks, having [pour cloud] pour-cloud spreads less than 30°C, the process comprising:

- a) fractionating a lube base stock feedstock into at least a heavier and a lighter fraction;

- b) catalytically dewaxing the fractions using a Hydroisomerization Dewaxing Catalyst, providing dewaxed lube base stocks;
- c) measuring the pour-cloud [spread on] spreads of the dewaxed lube base stocks [from the fractions]; and
- d) modifying the process to achieve lube base stocks having [pour cloud] pour-cloud spreads of less than 30°C by [from the process steps selected from the group consisting of] adjusting the fractionation cut point, adjusting the fractionation efficiency, [an additional process step of] Solvent Dewaxing the lube base stocks, [, an additional process step of] adsorbent treating the lube base stocks, and combinations thereof, whereby the lube base stocks have a pour point between -15 and -40°C, a VI above 115, a cloud point of less than -10°C, and a sulfur content of less than 300 ppm.